

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 AGR-05 EA-07

FRB-03 IO-11 NEA-10 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 XMB-02

OIC-02 /140 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, EGEN, OECD

SUBJECT: HLG ON NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS: PREPARATION FOR
CIEC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

1. SUMMARY: NORTH/SOUTH GROUP'S FEBRUARY 9 SESSION
DEVOTED PRINCIPALLY TO USEFUL EXCHANGE ON ORGANIZATION
OF WORK IN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. VIEWS OF COMMISSION
PARTICIPANTS GENERALLY IN ACCORD ON PRIORITIES AND
APPROACH TO COMMISSION'S WORK, WITH EXCEPTION OF EC,
WHICH APPEARED TO HAVE NOT YET ACHIEVED COMMON POSITION
AMONG MEMBER STATES. GROUP ALSO RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN
ROBERT, WITH FRANCE NOMINATING, SWISS AND AUSTRIANS
SECONDING. END SUMMARY.

2. MEETING OPENED WITH ELECTION OF ROBERT AS CHAIRMAN
AND THEN PASSED QUICKLY TO DISCUSSION OF PRIORITIES FOR
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DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION WHICH SHOWED CONSIDERABLE HARMONY

OF VIEWS AMONG COMMISSION PARTICIPANTS. U.S. LED OFF BY MAKING FOUR POINTS: (A) FINANCIAL ISSUES WERE FIRST PRIORITY FOR RAPID PROGRESS AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED INITIALLY IN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. (B) IT WOULD BE TACTICALLY MUCH BETTER TO DELAY DISCUSSION OF TRADE ISSUES TO AVOID COMPLICATING WORK OF MTN AND TO PERMIT MTN TO SHOW EXPECTED RESULTS IN IMPROVING LDC TRADE OPPORTUNITIES. (C) G-19 PRIORITY LIST MUCH TOO SUBJECTIVE. INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES MUST SEEK OBJECTIVE, NEUTRALLY-WORDED WORK PROGRAM. ONLY OTHER LIST PRESENTLY ON THE TABLE WAS U.S. LIST PRESENTED AT KLEBER II. THIS WAS ADMITTEDLY TOO BRIEF, BUT COULD SERVE AS A BASIS FOR A MORE DETAILED WORK PROGRAM. (D) G-19 LIST DID NOT INCLUDE INVESTMENT AND PRIVATE CAPITAL FLOW ISSUES. THESE COULD PERHAPS BE COMBINED WITH TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION. SWEDISH DELEGATION FOLLOWED WITH ENDORSEMENT OF FIRST PRIORITY FOR FINANCIAL ISSUES AND LOWER PRIORITY FOR TRADE, SETTING OUT FOUR MAJOR AREAS FOR CONCENTRATION: TRANSFER OF RESOURCES, FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, TECHNOLOGY CUM INDUSTRIALIZATION, AND TRADE. SWEDES GAVE PARTICULAR SUPPORT TO FOOD ITEM AND SPECIFICALLY URGED IFAD AS A PROPITIOUS INITIATIVE WITH THE BEST CHANCE FOR DRAWING OPEC SUPPORT.

3. CANADIANS MADE INTERESTING PROPOSAL SETTING OUT SAME FOUR GENERAL ITEMS LISTED BY SWEDES AND SUGGESTING THAT COMMISSION DEVOTE ONE MEETING TO EACH, COVERING GAMUT OF LDC CONCERNS BY MID-YEAR AND LEAVING OPPORTUNITY FOR SECOND ROUND ON SOME SUBJECTS AFTER SUMMER BREAK. CANADIANS PROPOSED FEBRUARY COMMISSION MEETING BE DEVOTED STRICTLY TO PROCEDURE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK, LEAVING SUBSTANCE TO FOUR MEETINGS SCHEDULED IN MARCH-JULY PERIOD. OTHERS SUPPORTED STREAMLINED, NEUTRAL AGENDA, WITH PRIORITIES INDICATED BY U.S., SWEDEN AND CANADA.

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4. SOLE DELEGATION AMONG PARTICIPANTS TO TAKE MARKEDLY DIFFERENT VIEW WAS EC, WITH LUXEMBOURG, AS CURRENT PRESIDENCY, ACTING AS SPOKESMAN. EC QUESTIONED WHETHER MOVING SERIALY THROUGH FOUR TOPICS WAS PREFERABLE, SUGGESTING POSSIBILITY THAT ITEMS RIPE FOR RAPID PROGRESS COULD BE EXTRACTED FROM ALL FOUR AREAS AND DEALT WITH SIMULTANEOUSLY. EC SAID IT WOULD NOT SUPPORT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AS FIRST ITEM SINCE COMMUNITY HAD NOT FULLY DEVELOPED ITS POSITION IN THIS AREA AND THOUGHT, IN CONTRAST TO OTHER DELS, THAT SOME POSSIBILITIES FOR DISCUSSION MIGHT EXIST IN TRADE FIELD. LUXEMBOURG DEL DID AGREE G-19 LIST TOO SUBJECTIVE AND NEED WAS FOR NEUTRAL WORK PROGRAM.

5. COMMENT: IT WAS CLEAR FROM LUXEMBOURG PRESENTATION THAT EC IS HAVING CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY REACHING A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DETAILED COMMON POSITION FOR DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. SETTING UP AGENDA IN NON-SYSTEMATIC FASHION, AS EC SUGGESTED IN LOW-KEY WAY, WOULD PERMIT COMMUNITY TO PUT FORWARD ASSORTMENT OF ITEMS ON WHICH IT ALREADY HAS BROAD AGREEMENT AND CAN APPEAR FORTHCOMING, E.G., IMPROVEMENT OF GSP. U.S. DEL IS ATTRACTED TO CANADIAN PROPOSAL WHICH HAS MERITS OF LIMITING INITIAL MEETING TO PROCEDURE, OFFERS LOGICAL SCHEDULE FOR CONSIDERATION OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AND PERMITS RECONSIDERATION OF SAME ISSUES IN LATTER PART OF YEAR, AS DESIRED BY G-19, THUS ALLEVIATING PRESSURE FOR INSTANT RESULTS ON MANY

ITEMS IN THE FIRST ROUND. DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION G-5
WILL MEET TOMORROW WITH WELLENSTEIN TO CONSIDER AGENDA
FURTHER.
TURNER

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